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**Zur Verständigung über die Begriffe Nation und Nationalität. Von Alfred Kirchhoff.** 64 pp. Verlag der Buchhandlung des Waisenhauses, Halle a. S., 1905. (Price, M. 1.)

A discussion of the real meaning of the words Nation and Nationality, illustrated by many facts of history and by quotations from the writings of statesmen and sociological investigators.

**Die Abstammung des Menschen. Von Wilhelm Bölsche.** 99 pp. and numerous Illustrations. 24th Edition. Kosmos, Gesellschaft der Naturfreunde, Stuttgart. (Price, M. 1.)

The Kosmos Society at Stuttgart is stimulating the love of nature and acquaintance with its phenomena by publishing at a very cheap price small books like this one on various phases of natural history. The books are designed for the widest circle of readers, and any one of them may be perused in a few hours. The present volume, on the descent of man, is based on evolution as expounded by Darwin and Haeckel. A number of the illustrations are introduced to show the points of resemblance between the human embryo and that of some of the lower animals. The rather striking picture in colours on the title-page shows one of our progenitors in the Ice Age proudly erect on the body of a giant mammoth he has just killed and brandishing his spear over the victim of his prowess.

**Mathematische Geographie (Miniatur-Bibliothek, 671-673). Von Franz Baur.** 140 pp. and 21 Figures. Albert Otto Paul, Leipzig. (Price, 30 pf.)

A 16mo volume dealing with the size, shape, weight, and movements of the earth and heavenly bodies, the determination of geographical positions, etc. A clearly-written, though brief, manual, which requires on the part of the reader considerable knowledge of plane and spherical trigonometry.

**An Introduction to Practical Geography. By A. T. Simmons and Hugh Richardson.** pp. 380. Macmillan & Company, London, 1905.

Simmons and Richardson's Introduction to Practical Geography is a small volume, containing twenty-five chapters of suggestions as to practical work in geography available for field and laboratory. The difference between physical geography in America and England is shown by the fact that fourteen of the twenty-five chapters are devoted to mathematical geography and maps, seven to the atmosphere, and one each to rivers, the sea, plant geography, and man's dwelling-place.

Many of the exercises are too detailed for use in American schools, but all are suggestive, and many are extremely ingenious. The graphic representations of the simpler map projections are very helpful, and the problems in longitude, time, and climate are very pertinent. The book deserves to be consulted by every teacher of physical geography who would depart from the somewhat formal laboratory work of American schools.

R. E. D.

**The Egyptian Sudan. By J. Kelly Giffen.** 252 pp. Maps and Illustrations. Fleming H. Revell Company, New York. (Price, \$1.00.)

Very little has been written about the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan since Kitchener put an end to the Mahdist tyranny and the Sudan was once more opened to civilization. Great work has been done there, and this book is a desirable contribution to the story of the development of this part of Africa.

The two lines on which the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan is developing relate to its agricultural and commercial prospects and possibilities, and to the educational and humanitarian interest. Dr. Giffen's book deals with the country in both these interesting aspects; and as he has lived there for years and has devoted his life, as a missionary, to the welfare and enlightenment of the people, he was especially qualified to make the book instructive. He describes the Sudan as far south as the great Sobat, tributary of the Nile, where he founded a missionary station. He says that although the climate of any part of the Sudan is trying, it is possible for the white man to live there and do good work. Frequent changes may be necessary, however, to preserve health.

**A Yankee in Pigmy Land.** By William Edgar Geil. x and 364 pp., and many Illustrations. Dodd, Mead & Company, 1905. (Price, \$1.50).

Mr. Geil would have immortalized his name if his crossing of Africa had occurred thirty years ago; but these trans-continental journeys are not an uncommon occurrence to-day, and most of them, like Mr. Geil's trip, are facilitated by the steamboat and railroad.

The book is the story of what its author saw during his journey from Mombasa, on the Indian Ocean, to the mouth of the Congo by way of the great tropical forest inhabited by pygmies to the west of the Albert Nyanza. It is full of interest and information. Nearly one-fourth of the space is given to the pygmies, and probably no other book contains so many photographs of these little people. The many suggestions as to equipment and hygiene offered to travellers in tropical Africa will be helpful. That region is to-day in a transition state, and an occasional book like this is especially desirable as giving a bird's-eye view of the latest phases of progress.

**Hans the Eskimo. A Story of Arctic Adventure.** By Christiana Scandlin. 125 pp. and 25 Illustrations. Silver, Burdett & Co., New York. (Price, 42c.)

The purpose of the book is to present a simple narrative of Eskimo home life, and especially to give school children an account of the lives of the little children of the far north. The book idealizes the character of Hans Henrik, and the facts used are confined to the stories he told on Kane's vessel, the *Advance*, as they appear in Kane's "Arctic Explorations."

We think the author's purpose might have been even more fully served if she had based her book upon the complete memoir of Hans which he wrote in the Eskimo language. This memoir was translated by Dr. Henry Rink and printed in *The Geographical Magazine*, Vol. 5, 1878. Dr. Rink translated the story because he had never read any adventures in the far north that were so curious and which so fully reflected the ideas and mental development of the Eskimos. The memoir covers not only the period of Kane's work but also the later expeditions of Hayes, Hall, and Sir George Nares, with all of whom Hans served.

**The Junior Geography,** By A. J. Herbertson, Reader in Geography in the University of Oxford. 288 pp., 166 black-and-white maps, and Index. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1905.

The volume covers the regional geography necessary for the Oxford junior examinations. It is Vol. 2 of the Oxford Geographies, and the preliminary volume, in course of preparation, will deal especially with physical geography.